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The first chapter enumerates, with the briefest possible description, the reconstruction commissions created in a score of countries during the war period. The second deals, largely in the words of native writers, with the general task of reconstruction as it presents itself to the labor leaders and the statesmen of England, France and Germany. The third takes up in more detail the labor question in Germany and shows how closely German liberal sentiment is in accord with the reconstruction aims of the British Labor party. The fourth deals similarly with the labor problem in Great Britain, and presents synopses of eight or nine specific programs, including those of the Liverpool Fabian Society, the Garton Foundation, the Trade Union Congress, the Whitley Commission, and the Labor party. The volume closes with a useful list of British subcommittees on reconstruction—87 in number—and a reasonably complete bibliography covering Great Britain and France, but containing no titles on Germany.

It would be gratuitous to quarrel with the author for not planning and producing a book on different lines. The history of reconstruction experiments cannot as yet be written, because it is not as yet made. As an intelligently edited handbook of reconstruction schemes (which is all that the author undertook to produce), the present volume serves a useful purpose. The occasional expressions of judgment are generally unexceptionable. The tendency of our written Constitution to impede "free political development" is, however, somewhat overstated.

FREDERIC A. OGG.

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*Constitutional Power and World Affairs.* By GEORGE SUTHERLAND. (New York: Columbia University Press. Pp. 202.)

The author of this volume, a former United States senator from Utah, discusses in a popular but illuminating manner the extent of the treaty-making and war powers under the United States Constitution. The broad extent of the powers of the general government when dealing with external affairs he deduces from the fact that they are not distributed but vested wholly and exclusively in the general government, and are granted without reservation or exception of any kind. With regard to the war powers the important fact is emphasized that they are vested in Congress except in so far as the functions of the commander-in-chief of the army and navy are in the President. The powers of the President as commander-in-chief are carefully distin-

guished from those he has as chief executive. In the exercise of the former he is limited only by the usages and customs of war; for the exercise of the latter he must look to the grants and limitations of the Constitution and to the authority given him by acts of Congress. In his last chapter entitled "After the War," Ex-Senator Sutherland takes a measurably advanced ground with reference to military "preparedness;" and with regard to avoiding war is of opinion that "we shall, in the long run, secure better and more lasting results by a gradual extension of the principles and plans already initiated by the Hague Conferences than by adopting the more ambitious and more adventurous plan now suggested for the League of Nations, including as its distinguishing feature the use of some form of international force."

The volume embodies the lectures given in 1918 at Columbia University on the Blumenthal Foundation.

W. W. WILLOUGHBY.

*Johns Hopkins University.*

*Belgium.* By BRAND WHITLOCK. (New York: D. Appleton and Company. Two volumes.)

In the summer of 1917 I had the good luck to spend part of a day with Mr. and Mrs. Brand Whitlock at Havre. Our distinguished minister had never looked better; the haggard, strained expression about his eyes which had been so noticeable in Brussels had disappeared; his color was good, and his tall thin figure seemed almost athletic as he strode up the gravel path, thrust open the garden gate, and greeted us. Of course he was writing a book—the book, we suggested. For America's entrance into the war meant, for Mr. Whitlock at least, opportunity to take a well-earned rest and to write. The crushing diplomatic burden which he had borne in Brussels since August, 1914, had slipped easily from his shoulders. A mile or two away, at Sainte Adresse—the Nice of Havre, as guidebooks say—perched on a rocky shelf above the gray Atlantic, the exiled Belgian government had taken root. But Mr. Whitlock's official duties were few and not onerous, and it is to this fortunate circumstance that we owe the volumes before us.

It is now five years since the Germans invaded Belgium, where Mr. Whitlock's narrative begins; it is two years and a half since America declared war, where the narrative ends. Yet the news he brings us is not stale. Other men have told us parts of his story, but he alone has told us the whole of it, and it is a story which will never grow old.